

Just as you have an estate, you also have an estate plan. Your plan can be well thought out, complete and people-oriented. As such, it will help your estate grow and flourish to the maximum of its potential. It will also bring you peace of mind, security and contentment.

If your estate plan consists of many unrelated pieces with no guiding goals, however, progress may be difficult. Hard-earned money may seep away through unnecessary taxes. Retirement may find you unprepared and ill-financed. Your family may argue over who should receive the property.

This publication is an introduction to estate planning. It has shown a process you can use in starting to develop an estate plan. If you have unanswered questions about death taxes, business organization and tools in estate planning, the following Extension publications may help answer some of those questions. These bulletins are available from your county Cooperative Extension Service office.

E-693, *Planning Your Will*

E-451, *Record of Important Family Papers*

E-1231, *Federal Estate and Gift Taxes*

E-1345, *Trust Uses in Estate Planning*

E-1348, *Michigan Inheritance Tax*

The following bulletins are for farmers to use in organizing their businesses and developing estate plans.

E-731, *General Partnership for Agricultural Producers*

E-1346, *Life Insurance Uses in Farm Estate Planning*

NCR-11, *The Farm Corporation*

NCR-43, *Taxmanship in Buying or Selling a Farm*

NCR-49, *Retirement Planning for Farm Families*

NCR-50, *Farm Business Arrangement: Which One For You?*

NCR-56, *Long-Term Installment Land Contracts*